#### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

# Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Services Permits Division

### New or Revised Emissions Estimation Methodologies (LAC 33:III.501.C.11) (AQ240E)

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B), which allows the Department of Environmental Quality to use emergency procedures to establish rules, and under the authority of R.S. 30:2011, the secretary of the department hereby declares that an emergency action is necessary to implement rules concerning the use of new or revised emissions estimation methodologies for annual compliance certifications required by LAC 33:III.507.H.

This rule revision clarifies requirements set forth in LAC 33:III.919, concerning emission inventory, and LAC 33:III.507.H, concerning annual compliance certifications. On December 20, 2003, the department promulgated final rule AQ220 to clarify and update the requirements for emissions inventory. These changes were made, in part, to correlate LAC 33:III.919 with the recently promulgated Consolidated Emissions Reporting Rule (67 FR 39602-39616, No. 111, 6/10/02). LAC 33:III.919.C was also modified to clarify that emissions reported in the emissions inventory shall be calculated using the best available information.

The department realizes that the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §7430) requires EPA to periodically review AP-42 factors and that such emission factors may change upwards or downwards due to receipt of improved data.

The failure to adopt this rule on an emergency basis (i.e., without the delays for public notice and comment) would result in imminent peril to the public welfare. The promulgation of final rule AQ220 clarifies the requirement that permittees use the latest version of any AP-42 factor used to calculate emissions reported on an Annual Emission Inventory. For some facilities, this will result in a change in the calculation of emissions from levels that were previously in compliance with permit limits to levels that exceed those permit limits. Those facilities that have been reporting emissions in compliance with their permits may now be reporting emissions that exceed permit limits, even though their actual emissions have not changed. As a result, these facilities face potential enforcement actions, including substantial civil penalties. Some such facilities may elect to reduce or cease operations, which would have severe economic consequences for the firms involved, as well as their employees, suppliers, and customers. Adding LAC 33:III.501.C.11 allows the department to review changes in emission factors on a case by case basis prior to any actions taken by the department.

This Emergency Rule is effective on December 24, 2003, and shall remain in effect for a maximum of 120 days or until a final rule is promulgated, whichever occurs first. For more information concerning AQ240E you may contact the Regulation Development Section at (225) 219-3550.

Adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 2003.

L. Hall Bohlinger Secretary

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of Air Pollution Emission Factors (AP-42) and other department-approved estimation methodologies may be promulgated or revised. Emissions increases due solely to a change in AP-42 factors do not constitute violations of the air permit. Changes in emission factors other than AP-42 factors will be evaluated by the department on a case-by-case basis for appropriate action.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2054.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Air Quality and Nuclear Energy, Air Quality Division, LR 13:741 (December 1987), amended by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Air Quality and Radiation Protection, Air Quality Division, LR 16:613 (July 1990), LR 17:478 (May 1991), LR 19:1420 (November 1993), LR 20:1281 (November 1994), LR 20:1375 (December 1994), LR 23:1677 (December 1997), amended by the Office of the Secretary, LR 25:660 (April 1999), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 26:2445 (November 2000), LR 28:997 (May 2002), LR 30:\*\*.